

REMARKS

Rejection of claims 1-5 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Obendorf

The Examiner rejected claims 1-5 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Obendorf. Claim 1 is amended herein to incorporate the limitation in claim 2, namely that the key comprises context information appended to a class identifier. In addressing this limitation in the rejection of claim 2, the Examiner cites to FIG. 3B of Obendorf as allegedly teaching this limitation. A quick glance at FIG. 3B of Obendorf shows a table that includes key-value pairs, where the key is a class identifier 218 and the value is the name of the table corresponding to the class identifier. The class identifier in Obendorf is a 128 bit GUID as indicated in the Microsoft Common Object Module (COM) specification. See Obendorf col. 5 lines 28-30. *Nowhere does Obendorf teach or suggest a key that comprises context information appended to a class identifier.* Item 218 in Obendorf certainly reads on the class identifier in claim 1 as amended, but there is no context information appended to this class identifier. As a result, Obendorf fails to teach or suggest a key that comprises context information appended to a class identifier, as clearly recited in claim 1 as amended. Claim 1 is therefore allowable over Obendorf. Claim 2 has been canceled, and therefore need not be addressed. Each of claims 3-5 depend on claim 1, which is allowable for the reasons given above. As a result, claims 3-5 are allowable as depending on an allowable independent claim. Applicant respectfully requests allowance of claims 1-5.

Rejection of claims 6-11 and 13-19 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over the combination of Obendorf and Judge

The Examiner rejected claims 6-11 and 13-19 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over the combination of Obendorf and Judge. Each of the independent claims in this group, namely claims 6 and 13, have been amended herein to recite a key

that comprises context information appended to a class identifier. Neither Obendorf nor Judge teach or suggest a key that comprises context information appended to a class identifier. As a result, each of independent claims 6 and 13 are allowable over the combination of Obendorf and Judge. Claims 9 and 16 have been canceled herein, and therefore need not be addressed. Claims 7, 8, 10, 11, and 14-19 each depend on an independent claim that is allowable for the reasons given above. As a result, claims 7, 8, 10, 11, and 14-19 are allowable as depending on allowable independent claims. Applicant respectfully requests allowance of claims 6-11 and 13-19.

Rejection of claim 12 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over the combination of Obendorf, Judge and White

The Examiner rejected claim 12 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over the combination of Obendorf, Judge and White. Claim 12 is amended herein to recite a key that comprises context information appended to a class identifier. Nowhere does Obendorf, Judge or White teach such a key as recited in claim 12. For this reason, claim 12 is allowable over the combination of Obendorf, Judge and White, and applicant respectfully requests allowance of claim 12.

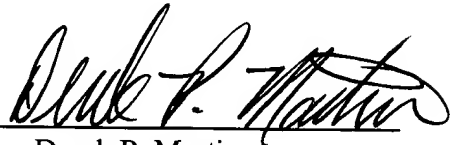
New claims 20-23

New claims 20-23 have been added herein to provide claims with coverage that includes most of the limitations in the dependent claims that were originally filed. Each of claims 20 and 21 include the limitation of a key that comprises context information appended to a class identifier. None of the cited art teach or suggest such a key. As a result, claims 20 and 21 are allowable over the cited art. In addition, claims 22 and 23 depend on claim 21, which is allowable for the reasons given above. As a result, claims 22 and 23 are allowable as depending on an allowable independent claim.

Conclusion

In summary, none of the cited prior art, either alone or in combination, teach, support, or suggest the unique combination of features in applicant's claims presently on file. Therefore, applicant respectfully asserts that all of applicant's claims are allowable. Such allowance at an early date is respectfully requested. The Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned if this would in any way advance the prosecution of this case.

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